



# State of Louisiana

BOBBY JINDAL  
GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
AND  
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

MARK A. COOPER  
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## PRESS RELEASE

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## LOUISIANA TO ASSIST IN MISSOURI TORNADO DISASTER

BATON ROUGE, LA (June 6, 2011) – The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) deployed two employees to assist with sheltering and donation coordination pertaining to recovery efforts from the tornadoes that ravaged Joplin, Missouri last month. GOHSEP was contacted directly by senior state emergency officials to assist based on the agency's experience in responding to disasters.

Missouri made the request through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), a formal agreement that allows states to draw assistance from other states following a disaster.

"Missouri provided assistance to the State of Louisiana in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Gustav," said GOHSEP Director Mark Cooper. "This is our opportunity to reciprocate in their time of need."

Missouri received a Presidential Disaster Declaration on May 9, 2011 for severe storms, tornadoes and flooding.

EMAC was established in 1996 to allow states outside of a declared disaster area to render assistance to the state in need. EMAC has been used in a number of disasters, but the EMAC response to Katrina and Rita was, by far, the largest utilization of EMAC in the history of the compact.

In 2005, Missouri provided Louisiana with 2,080 National Guard troops, law enforcement, search and rescue and communications support in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. In 2008, Missouri sent 1,360 National Guard troops, shelter support, ambulance strike teams and food stamp specialists to support Louisiana following Hurricane Gustav.

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